

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
DAVID F. BUSBY,  
Defendant.

Court: The Honorable Sandra Brown  
Armstrong

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8 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
10

11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	No. CR 11-00188 SBA
	)	
12 Plaintiff,	)	DEFENDANT'S NOTICE, MOTION AND
	)	MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
13 vs.	)	MOTION TO SUPPRESS EVIDENCE
	)	
14 DAVID F. BUSBY,	)	Date: September 13, 2011
	)	Time: 11:00 a.m.
15 Defendant.	)	Court: The Honorable Sandra Brown
	)	Armstrong

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16  
17 TO: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF; AND MELINDA  
18 HAAG, UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, AND SUZANNE B.  
19 MILES, ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

20 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that counsel for defendant David F. Busby hereby moves this  
21 Court for an order suppressing all fruits of the warrantless seizures and searches of his work  
22 computers and other electronic equipment as well as all fruits of the warrant search of his home.  
23 If the Court does not suppress all fruits of the warrant search of his home based upon the  
24 insufficiency of the warrant application, Mr. Busby respectfully requests a *Franks* hearing. Mr.  
25 Busby also moves to suppress all statements made in the course of two un-*Mirandized*  
26 interrogations.

1 The motion is based on this notice and motion, the following memorandum of points and  
 2 authorities, the Fourth and Fifth amendments to the United States Constitution and all other  
 3 applicable constitutional, statutory and case authority, and such evidence and argument as may be  
 4 presented at the hearing of this motion.

## 5 INTRODUCTION

6 Federal officers seized and searched computers and other electronic devices found at Mr.  
 7 Busby's workplace without a warrant. Based on information allegedly found on one of those  
 8 computers, a University of California Police Department ("UCPD") officer obtained a warrant to  
 9 search Mr. Busby's home. The government cannot carry its burden of proving that the initial  
 10 warrantless seizure and search did not violate the Fourth Amendment. Further, the search  
 11 warrant was not valid because (1) it was based on the initial unconstitutional warrantless seizure  
 12 and search; (2) the warrant affidavit did not establish probable cause to believe that a crime had  
 13 been committed or that evidence of contraband would be found in Mr. Busby's home; and (3) the  
 14 warrant affidavit included material misstatements. Accordingly, all fruits of the warrantless  
 15 seizure and search at Mr. Busby's workplace, as well as all fruits of the warrant search of Mr.  
 16 Busby's home, must be suppressed. State and federal officers also questioned Mr. Busby without  
 17 first advising him of his rights. All fruits of these un-Mirandized interrogations also must be  
 18 suppressed.

## 19 STATEMENT OF FACTS

### 20 A. The Warrantless Seizure and Search of Computers at Mr. Busby's Workplace

21 On April 20, 2010, an employee of the cyber security group at the Lawrence Berkeley  
 22 National Laboratory ("LBNL") who was engaged in "routine log analysis" noticed that a  
 23 computer system was accessing a number of domains ending in .biz and .info.<sup>1</sup> See E-mail,  
 24 \_\_\_\_\_

25 <sup>1</sup>LBNL is a public institution, managed by the University of California System and  
 26 funded by the United States Department of Energy. Complaint Form, attached as Exhibit B to  
 Smock Decl.

1 attached as Exhibit A to the Declaration of Ned Smock (“Smock Decl.”). The employee  
2 contacted a manager, noting that it was unclear whether or not “the system was (1) compromised  
3 and being used to relay activity . . . (2) was driven by user activity, or (3) unknown.” *Id.* The  
4 LBNL network authentication on the computer system was traced to Mr. Busby, who was an  
5 LBNL employee. Complaint Form, attached as Exhibit B to Smock Decl. Mr. Busby was  
6 working at the time at LBNL’s Oakland Scientific Facility site. Statement of Probable Cause,  
7 attached as Exhibit C to Smock Decl.

8 Without any additional information or authorization, the LBNL cyber security team went  
9 to the Oakland site and seized Mr. Busby’s laptop, eight other computers he allegedly operated  
10 and several hard drives in and around his desk. Incident Report, attached as Exhibit D to Smock  
11 Decl. That evening, the LBNL team transferred all the seized equipment to the UCPD. Exh. C  
12 to Smock Decl. Without a warrant, UCPD made a forensic copy of the hard drive of Mr.  
13 Busby’s laptop and searched it. *Id.*

14 From May 3 to May 13, 2010, agents of the Department of Energy Office of the Inspector  
15 General (DOE OIG) Technology Crimes Unit obtained the hardware that had been seized without  
16 a warrant from Mr. Busby’s workplace and began imaging and examining the contents of the  
17 hard disk drives. Memoranda of Investigative Activity, attached as Exhibits E-H to Smock Decl.

18 **B. The Warrant Search of Mr. Busby’s Home**

19 On April 21, 2010, UCPD Detective Sabrina Reich obtained from the Alameda County  
20 Superior Court a warrant to search Mr. Busby’s home. Exh. C to Smock Decl. The warrant  
21 affidavit claimed that there was probable cause to search Mr. Busby’s home based on three  
22 pieces of information: (1) witness statements linking the IP address of Mr. Busby’s work laptop  
23 to certain websites “suspected” of hosting child pornography; (2) nine images found on Mr.  
24 Busby’s laptop purportedly depicting females in their “mid-to-late teens”; and (3) the affiant’s  
25 opinions about the behaviors of possessors and disseminators of child pornography. *Id.* at DB-  
26 13. On April 22, 2010, UCPD police and DOE OIG agents searched Mr. Busby’s home.



Memorandum of Investigative Activity, attached as Exhibit I to Smock Decl. They seized a laptop, several hard drives, a DVD, a VHS tape and various electronics items. UCPD Supplemental Report, attached as Exhibit J to Smock Decl.

**C. The Un-Mirandized Interrogations of Mr. Busby**

During the April 22 search of Mr. Busby's home, Detective Reich interrogated Mr. Busby without first advising him of his *Miranda* rights. See Exh. J to Smock Decl. On April 30, 2010, DOE OIG agents returned to Mr. Busby's home to question him, again without advising him of his *Miranda* rights. Memorandum of Investigative Activity, attached as Exhibit K to Smock Decl.

Based upon images allegedly located on the computers that government agents seized and searched, Mr. Busby is charged in this case with one count of knowing possession of a matter containing child pornography.

**ARGUMENT**

**A. The Warrantless Search and Seizure of Mr. Busby's Work Laptop and Computer Equipment Violated the Fourth Amendment.**

The Fourth Amendment guarantees the right to be free from unreasonable government searches. U.S. Const. amend. IV; *United States v. Caseres*, 533 F.3d 1064, 1069 (9th Cir. 2008). The LBNL agents who conducted the initial warrantless seizure and search were government employees: LBNL is "supported by the U.S. Department of Energy" and "managed by the University of California," a public institution. Exh. B to Smock Decl. at DB-15. Because the agents who seized and searched Mr. Busby's laptop and other electronic equipment were employees of a government institution, and because their seizure and search were within the scope of their employment, their conduct is subject to the strictures of the Fourth Amendment. See *O'Connor v. Ortega*, 480 U.S. 709, 714-15 (1987) (searches and seizures by government employees are subject to Fourth Amendment) (plurality); *United States v. Simons*, 206 F.3d 392, 398 (4th Cir. 2000) (holding that Fourth Amendment prohibits unreasonable searches by

1 government employers and supervisors); *see also United States v. Heckenkamp*, 482 F.3d 1142,  
 2 1143-48 (9th Cir. 2007) (applying Fourth Amendment scrutiny to a computer search conducted  
 3 by state university staff).

4 “A warrantless search is unconstitutional unless the government demonstrates that it falls  
 5 within certain established and well-defined exceptions to the warrant clause.” *United States v.*  
 6 *Brown*, 563 F.3d 410, 414 (9th Cir. 2009) (internal quotation marks and brackets omitted). The  
 7 government bears the burden of persuading the Court that a warrantless search does not violate  
 8 the Fourth Amendment. *Id.*; *United States v. Hawkins*, 249 F.3d 867, 872 (9th Cir. 2001); *see*  
 9 *also Caseres*, 533 F.3d at 1076 (holding that government did not carry burden of establishing that  
 10 search was valid as parole search). If the government does not carry its burden of establishing  
 11 that a warrantless search or seizure is constitutional, all evidence obtained as a result of the  
 12 search or seizure must be suppressed. *Caseres*, 533 F.3d at 1076.

13 It is unquestionable that the seizure and searches of Mr. Busby’s work laptop and  
 14 electronic equipment were undertaken without a warrant. *See* Exh. C to Smock Decl. Because  
 15 warrantless searches and seizures by government employees are presumptively unconstitutional,  
 16 the government must prove that the searches did *not* violate the Fourth Amendment. Otherwise,  
 17 all fruits of the warrantless seizure and searches must be suppressed.

18 **B. The Subsequent Warrant Search of Mr. Busby’s Home Violated the Fourth**  
 19 **Amendment.**

20 Even though government officials obtained a warrant before they searched Mr. Busby’s  
 21 home, this warrant search also violated the Fourth Amendment, for several reasons. First, the  
 22 affidavit supporting the search warrant, titled “Statement of Probable Cause” (“Statement”),  
 23 relied on information obtained in the course of the warrantless seizure and searches of Mr.  
 24 Busby’s work laptop. *See* Exh. C to Smock Decl. Second, the evidence presented to the court in  
 25 the Statement was insufficient to establish probable cause that a crime had been committed or  
 26 that contraband likely would be found in Mr. Busby’s home. Finally, the Statement was riddled

1 with material misrepresentations of fact, without which there would have been no basis to search  
 2 Mr. Busby's home. Both individually and collectively, these facts warrant suppression of the  
 3 fruits of the search of Mr. Busby's home.

4 **1. The Statement of Probable Cause relied upon information obtained in**  
 5 **the course of a presumptively unconstitutional search and seizure.**

6 As an initial matter, all fruits of the warrant search of Mr. Busby's home must be  
 7 suppressed because the warrant was the fruit of the initial warrantless seizure and search of Mr.  
 8 Busby's laptop, which, as discussed above, violated the Fourth Amendment. *See, e.g., Murray v.*  
 9 *United States*, 487 U.S. 533, 536-42 (1988) (stating that exclusionary rule prohibits government's  
 10 use of evidence that is product of evidence obtained from unlawful prior search; warrant is not  
 11 independent of prior illegality if information from prior illegal search was presented to magistrate  
 12 and was material to decision to issue warrant).

13 **2. On its face, the Statement of Probable Cause did not in fact establish**  
 14 **probable cause.**

15 To be constitutionally valid under the Fourth Amendment, a search warrant affidavit must  
 16 establish probable cause. Specifically, the Fourth Amendment "requires the government to  
 17 establish by sworn evidence presented to a magistrate that probable cause exists to believe that an  
 18 offense has been committed and that items related to that offense . . . will be found on the  
 19 premises sought to be searched at the time the warrant is issued." *United States v. Rabe*, 848  
 20 F.2d 994, 997 (9th Cir. 1988); *see also Illinois v. Gates*, 462 U.S. 213, 238 (1983).

21 Determining whether an affidavit establishes "probable cause" is a fact-intensive  
 22 exercise, depending upon the "totality of the circumstances" and "factual, practical  
 23 considerations." *Gates*, 462 U.S. at 230-31. The *Gates* totality-of-the-circumstances test  
 24 "applies with equal force to cases involving child pornography on a computer." *United States v.*  
 25 *Gourde*, 440 F.3d 1065, 1069 (9th Cir. 2006). Probable cause in this context means a "fair  
 26 probability that contraband or evidence is located in a particular place." *Gates*, 462 U.S. at 231.

1 The Court must consider whether there is a “substantial basis for concluding that the affidavit in  
2 support of the warrant established probable cause.” *United States v. Greany*, 929 F.2d 523, 524  
3 (9th Cir. 1991).

4 Whether probable cause exists ultimately depends on whether the affidavit presents  
5 enough information for a magistrate independently to determine probable cause. The  
6 magistrate’s issuance of a warrant “cannot be a mere ratification of the bare conclusion of  
7 others.” *Gates*, 462 U.S. at 230. An affidavit must contain more than “mere conclusory  
8 allegations that a suspect was engaged in criminal activity.” *United States v. Angulo-Lopez*, 791  
9 F. 2d 1394, 1397 (9th Cir. 1986).

10 The Statement in support of the warrant to search Mr. Busby’s home did not give the  
11 magistrate an adequate basis to find probable cause that a crime had been committed or that  
12 contraband or evidence would be located in his home. The Statement relied on three central  
13 pieces of evidence: first, images suspected of being child pornography under the California Penal  
14 Code; second, software files suspected of being used to facilitate the downloading of child  
15 pornography; and finally, boilerplate language regarding the behaviors of child pornographers.  
16 *See* Exh. C to Smock Decl.

17 As presented in the affidavit, this evidence was insufficient to establish probable cause.  
18 The search warrant thus violates the Fourth Amendment, and all fruits of the search of Mr.  
19 Busby’s home must be suppressed.

20 **a. The images as described in the affidavit do not**  
21 **establish probable cause.**

22 The Statement described nine images of alleged child pornography found on Mr. Busby’s  
23 work laptop, but these descriptions do not support a finding of probable cause. First, the  
24 descriptions of the images in the affidavit do not establish that the subjects in the images are  
25 children. Second, the descriptions do not indicate that the images meet the California Penal  
26 Code’s definition of “sexually explicit conduct.” Because the descriptions in the Statement did

1 not give the magistrate a basis for believing that the images were either pornography *or* of  
2 children, they could not establish probable cause.

3 With respect to each of the nine images, the Statement described the females depicted  
4 therein as being in their “mid-to-late teens.” “Late teens” can include females who are 18 or 19,  
5 images of whom do not fall within the statutory definition of child pornography. *See* Cal. Penal  
6 Code § 311.4 (noting that the statute applies to images of “minors,” defined as being “under the  
7 age of eighteen years”). The affidavit failed to describe the images in sufficient detail to give the  
8 magistrate a substantial basis for concluding that they were depictions of minors. *Cf. United*  
9 *States v. Hill*, 459 F.3d 966, 970 (9th Cir. 2006) (finding probable cause established in an  
10 affidavit in which the images upon which the search warrant affidavit was based unambiguously  
11 depicted children).

12 Furthermore, as described in the affidavit, the images do not depict sexual acts  
13 constituting pornography. The California Penal Code defines child pornography as a depiction of  
14 sexual conduct, which it defines as, *inter alia*, “sexual intercourse” or “exhibition of the genital  
15 or rectal area for the purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer” or “lewd and lascivious acts”  
16 with a child under the age of 14. Cal. Penal Code § 311.4(d); *see id.* § 288. The broader  
17 definition of child pornography involving children under 14 is inapplicable here; the subjects are  
18 described as being in their “mid-to-late teens.” The statutory criteria thus are stricter, requiring a  
19 clear depiction of sexually explicit conduct. *Id.* § 311.4(d).

20 The Statement here described images depicting, for example, a single female “wearing a  
21 black dress, and sitting with breasts partially exposed”; “sitting on a fence and leaning back in a  
22 sexually suggestive manner”; or “standing in a sexually suggestive manner.” Exh. C to Smock  
23 Decl. at DB-12. However, sexual *suggestion* and sexually *explicit conduct* cannot be conflated;  
24 what is “suggestive” logically cannot also be “explicit.” Because the Statement’s descriptions  
25 failed to establish that the images depict sexual conduct as defined in the statute, it failed to  
26 establish that these images were pornographic.

1 As the Ninth Circuit noted in *United States v. Hove*, “[i]t is critical to a showing of  
 2 probable cause that the affidavit state *facts* sufficient to justify a *conclusion* that evidence or  
 3 contraband will probably be found at the premises to be searched.” 848 F.2d 137, 140 (9th Cir.  
 4 1988) (emphasis added). The magistrate cannot rely solely on the affiant’s “conclusory  
 5 allegation,” *Angulo-Lopez*, 791 F. 2d at 1397, that these images constituted child pornography  
 6 when the affidavit’s descriptions of them did not even meet the statutory definition of child  
 7 pornography. If anything, the descriptions established that the images are *not* child pornography.  
 8 They certainly did not give the magistrate a substantial basis to find that a crime had been  
 9 committed, or that evidence of that crime would be found at Mr. Busby’s home.

10 **b. The witness statements relied upon in the**  
 11 **affidavit do not establish probable cause.**

12 Another purported basis for issuance of the search warrant were witness statements  
 13 regarding websites accessed by Mr. Busby’s laptop computer and software found on that  
 14 computer. However, these statements, considered separately or in combination, are insufficient to  
 15 establish probable cause.

16 The affiant stated that an IP address, accessed by Mr. Busby’s laptop, was being used to  
 17 access “suspected child pornography websites.” Exh. C to Smock Decl. at DB-10. However,  
 18 the Statement gave no details about how the IP address was linked to the laptop or what made  
 19 these websites suspect. *Cf. Gourde*, 440 F.3d at 1066 (upholding validity of warrant that  
 20 described in detail defendant’s paid subscription to website called “Lolitagurls.com,” which  
 21 advertised itself as premier spot for photographs of “young girls”). The affiant’s conclusion did  
 22 not give the magistrate a basis for independently determining whether there was probable cause  
 23 for the search.

24 Similarly, the Statement noted that witnesses described finding “decoding and video  
 25 viewing files,” which it claimed are “known” to be used by sexual offenders to transfer child  
 26 pornography. Exh. C to Smock Decl. at DB-11. However, the Statement gave no detail about

1 these programs. Video and photo viewing files have legitimate purposes, and such programs are  
 2 present on virtually *all* computers.<sup>2</sup> Even copyright-infringing programs, such as BitTorrent,  
 3 which facilitate the downloading of large files, are used widely to download an array of popular  
 4 television shows and non-pornographic movies. *See Bunnell v. Motion Picture Ass'n of America*,  
 5 567 F. Supp. 2d 1148, 1149 & n.1 (C.D. Cal. 2007).

6 Once again, the Statement failed to provide an adequately detailed description to give the  
 7 magistrate an independent basis to assess probable cause. Instead, it relied wholly on vague  
 8 statements and conclusory allegations.

9 **c. The affiant's boilerplate statements**  
 10 **regarding consumers of child pornography**  
 11 **do not establish probable cause.**

12 The bulk of the Statement of Probable Cause consists of the affiant's "opinions and  
 13 conclusions" regarding "people who produce, trade, distribute or possess images or pictures of  
 14 minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct," and generalizations about the characteristics of  
 15 "these people." Exh. C to Smock Decl. at DB-12 to -13. The Statement alleged nowhere that  
 16 Mr. Busby produced, traded, or distributed child pornography. Based on the inadequate  
 17 descriptions of the nine purportedly suspect images, the Statement failed to establish that Mr.  
 18 Busby even fell within the category of "possessors" of child pornography. Thus the magistrate  
 19 had no basis to apply these "opinions and conclusions" to Mr. Busby.

20 The Ninth Circuit has rejected the use of boilerplate language detailing the general  
 21 behaviors of "pedophiles" and "child pornographers," noting that such language fails to establish  
 22 probable cause. *United States v. Weber*, 923 F.2d 1338, 1340 (9th Cir. 1990). "[I]f the  
 23 government presents expert opinion about a particular class of persons, for the opinion to have

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24 <sup>2</sup> Mr. Busby's work computer was a MacBook Pro. *See* Exhibit D to Smock Decl. A  
 25 standard-issue MacBook Pro is pre-loaded with software, including QuickTime, a video-  
 26 viewing program, and iPhoto, a photo-viewing and editing program. *See* MacBook Technical  
 Specifications, <http://www.apple.com/macbookpro/specs.html>.

1 any relevance, the affidavit must lay a foundation which shows that the suspected person is a  
 2 member of the class.” *Id.* at 1343.

3 The Statement here failed to lay the necessary foundation that Mr. Busby is a member of  
 4 the class of “people who produce, trade, distribute, or possess images or pictures of minors  
 5 engaged in sexually explicit conduct.” Exh. C to Smock Decl. at DB-13. Rather, the affidavit  
 6 “consists largely of rambling, boilerplate recitations designed to meet all law enforcement  
 7 needs.” *Weber*, 923 F.2d at 1343. Similar to the warrant affidavit rejected as insufficient in  
 8 *Weber*, the Statement here “was not drafted with the facts of this case or this particular defendant  
 9 in mind.” *Id.*; *cf. United States v. Kelley*, 482 F.3d 1047, 1054 (9th Cir. 2007) (concluding that  
 10 generalized “offender typology” language regarding child pornography collectors was probative  
 11 when combined with defendant’s receipt of nine separate e-mails, to two separate e-mail  
 12 addresses, containing files that unambiguously depicted child pornography); *United States v.*  
 13 *Martin*, 426 F.3d 68, 75 (2d Cir. 2005) (concluding that defendant’s membership in group called  
 14 “girls12-16,” whose chief purpose was to trade illegal pornographic material, coupled with  
 15 expert testimony regarding hoarding tendencies of traders of pornographic material, established  
 16 probable cause).

17 Because the Statement here included “opinions and conclusions” about a class of people  
 18 to which it failed to establish Mr. Busby belonged, it did not give the magistrate a substantial  
 19 basis to find probable cause.

20 **d. The affidavit did not establish probable cause**  
 21 **that evidence or contraband likely would be**  
 22 **located in Mr. Busby’s home.**

23 The Fourth Amendment mandates that warrant affidavits establish a “fair probability that  
 24 contraband or evidence *is located in a particular place.*” *Gates*, 462 U.S. at 231 (emphasis  
 25 added); *see also United States v. Grubbs*, 547 U.S. 90, 95 (2006) (noting that warrants require a  
 26 magistrate determination that “contraband, evidence of a crime, or a fugitive will be *on the*  
*described premises*” (emphasis added)). The Statement here suffers from another fatal flaw: It



1 did not establish a basis for believing that evidence likely would be found in Mr. Busby's home.

2 The Statement failed to make a logical link between the alleged evidence found on Mr.  
3 Busby's laptop and the affiant's conclusion that additional evidence of child pornography would  
4 be found in Mr. Busby's *residence*. The sole basis for this conclusion is the fact that Mr. Busby  
5 "had previously taken his laptop to his residence." Exh. C to Smock Decl. at DB-11. However,  
6 as mentioned above, LBNL employees already had possession of that laptop, so they could not  
7 reasonably have expected to find it in his home.

8 Nor, as discussed above, did the Statement's boilerplate recitations about the behaviors of  
9 child pornographers give the magistrate a basis for finding probable cause to believe that  
10 evidence or contraband would be found in Mr. Busby's home. The Statement gave no other basis  
11 for the magistrate to believe that evidence likely would be found in Mr. Busby's home. All fruits  
12 of the warrant search of Mr. Busby's home must be suppressed because the affidavit did not  
13 establish probable cause to search it.

14 **3. If the Court Does Not Suppress All Fruits of the Search of Mr.**  
15 **Busby's Home, It Must Conduct a *Franks* Hearing Because of**  
16 **Material Misrepresentations in the Statement of Probable**  
17 **Cause.**

18 Even if the Court does not suppress all fruits of the warrant search based on the  
19 Statement's failure to establish probable cause, it must conduct a *Franks* hearing because the  
20 Statement includes material misstatements of fact.

21 Under *Franks v. Delaware*, 438 U.S. 154 (1978), "a defendant is entitled to a *Franks*  
22 hearing if he makes a substantial preliminary showing that a false statement was deliberately or  
23 recklessly included in the search warrant affidavit and that the statement was necessary to the  
24 finding of probable cause." *United States v. Napier*, 436 F.3d 1133, 1139 (9th Cir. 2006). The  
25 defendant need not show, at this stage, clear proof of deliberate or reckless omissions or  
26 misrepresentations. *United States v. Stanert*, 762 F.2d 775, 781 (9th Cir. 1985). Rather, to  
obtain a hearing, the defendant need only "make a substantial showing" that the affidavit

1 intentionally or recklessly included misstatements or omitted information that would have  
2 precluded a finding of probable cause for the search. *Id.*

3 In this case, the affiant relied on two main statements to persuade the magistrate to  
4 authorize the search: that nine images on Mr. Busby's laptop constituted child pornography and  
5 that various video viewing files on Mr. Busby's laptop were being used mainly or exclusively for  
6 illicit purposes. Each of these statements is demonstrably false.

7  
8 **a. The images described in the affidavit were falsely  
9 represented as constituting child pornography when  
10 they were depictions of neither children nor  
11 pornography.**

12 The affiant in this case did not include with the Statement copies of the nine images  
13 found on Mr. Busby's laptop that allegedly constituted child pornography. Instead, the affiant  
14 provided brief descriptions of the images. When the images are not physically included with the  
15 affidavit, "the officer providing the description of the images ha[s] a duty . . . to do so in good  
16 faith, providing all relevant information to the magistrate." *Hill*, 459 F.3d at 971 n.6.

17 The defense recently asked the government to review the nine images described in the  
18 Statement. This review revealed that the officer's descriptions materially misrepresented the  
19 nature of the images. The Statement described the images as depicting an individual female in  
20 her "mid-to-late teens" in such a manner as to constitute child pornography as defined in the  
21 California Penal Code. Exh. C to Smock Decl. at DB-14. However, this is a bald factual  
22 misrepresentation: The images unequivocally depict a mature, clothed, female adult. *See*  
23 photographs, attached as Exhibit L to Smock Decl.<sup>3</sup>

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24 <sup>3</sup> The Adam Walsh Act, 42 U.S.C. § 16911 *et seq.*, prohibits provision of copies of child  
25 pornography evidence to the defense. For that reason, defense counsel must make special  
26 arrangements to view charged images at government facilities. Here, the government provided  
copies of the nine images directly to the defense because they so clearly do not qualify as child  
pornography. Declaration of Madeline Larsen ¶ 3. The images are attached hereto as Exhibit L  
to the Declaration of Ned Smock. The file name of each image is included so it can be linked to  
its relevant description in the Statement.

1 Like the analogous federal statute, *see* 18 U.S.C. § 2252, the child pornography provision  
2 of the California Penal Code makes an essential element of the crime depiction of a *child*, *i.e.*,  
3 someone under the age of 18. *See* Cal. Penal Code § 311.4(d) (defining child pornography as  
4 including minors “known to be under eighteen years old.”). Eight of the nine images here depict  
5 the same individual female and one depicts another female, both of whom clearly are well past  
6 the age of 18. The images described in the Statement cannot possibly depict a female in her “mid  
7 to late teens,” and the images cannot be *child* pornography.

8 Further, the photos are not pornographic in nature, as the affiant claimed. As discussed  
9 above, the California Penal Code defines “pornography” as depictions of “sexually explicit  
10 conduct,” including “sexual intercourse” and “exhibition of the genital or rectal area for the  
11 purpose of sexual stimulation of the viewer.” Cal. Penal Code § 311.4(d). The photos here, as  
12 review of the images themselves establishes, simply do not meet this definition. Although they  
13 may be suggestive, they clearly do not rise to the level of “explicit.” The affiant thus  
14 misrepresented to the magistrate the images that were at the heart of the Statement’s allegation of  
15 probable cause for the search of Mr. Busby’s home.

16 **b. The affidavit materially misrepresented the nature of**  
17 **the software on Mr. Busby’s computer.**

18 The Statement also included material misstatements about the software found on Mr.  
19 Busby’s laptop. The Statement relied for its showing of probable cause on the “decoding and  
20 video viewing files” and “a program commonly used to disguise the downloading of large files or  
21 large volumes of data” that were found on Mr. Busby’s laptop, suggesting that these files are  
22 inherently incriminating and that are “known” to be used primarily by sexual offenders to transfer  
23 child pornography. Exh. C to Smock Decl. at DB-11. In fact, such files and programs are found  
24 on almost every computer and are used frequently and predominantly for legitimate, non-criminal  
25 purposes.  
26

1 The DOE OIG inspector involved in Mr. Busby's case noted that there was "no software  
 2 on the computer that was devious or nefarious" and that he had found no program on the  
 3 computer used to "disguise the downloading of large files," as the affiant had suggested.  
 4 Declaration of Madeline Larsen ¶ 4. He stated that "he did not know why [the affiant] said that  
 5 [there were]." *Id.* Of the programs to which the Statement may have been referring, the  
 6 inspector stated that they are "all commonly used," "legitimate" and are "no more indicative of  
 7 illegal activity than the presence of the web browsers Internet Explorer or Safari." *Id.* ¶ 5.

8 The Statement's representations about the images and programs found during the  
 9 warrantless search of Mr. Busby's laptop serve as the very foundation of its showing of probable  
 10 cause. These representations also are demonstrably false. There is no reason for their inclusion  
 11 in the affidavit other than to mislead the magistrate into issuing a warrant. Accordingly, if the  
 12 Court does not suppress all fruits of the warrant search of Mr. Busby's home, it must at least hold  
 13 a *Franks* hearing. *See Franks*, 438 U.S. at 171 ("[I]f the remaining content [of the warrant  
 14 affidavit] is insufficient, a defendant is entitled, under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments, to  
 15 his hearing.").

16 **C. The government agents' repeated failure to advise Mr. Busby of his *Miranda***  
 17 **rights before interrogating him necessitates the suppression of all Mr.**  
 18 **Busby's statements made in the course of the interrogations.**

19 Even if the Court were to find that the search of Mr. Busby's home was lawful, his  
 20 statements must be excluded on the separate and independent basis that they were obtained in  
 21 violation of *Miranda*.

22 The Supreme Court held in *Miranda* that police must advise suspects of certain rights  
 23 before conducting an in-custody interrogation. *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U.S. 436, 479 (1966).  
 24 "[C]ustodial interrogation' mean[s] 'questioning initiated by law enforcement officers after a  
 25 person has been taken into custody or otherwise deprived of his freedom of action in any  
 26 significant way.'" *Yarborough v. Alvarado*, 541 U.S. 652, 661 (2004) (quoting *Miranda*, 384

1 U.S. at 458). In considering whether a person is in custody, courts must look at “how a  
2 reasonable person in the suspect’s situation would perceive his circumstances.” *Id.* at 662.  
3 Statements that are the product of custodial interrogation must be suppressed unless the  
4 defendant first was advised of and validly waived his rights. *Miranda*, 384 U.S. at 444.

5 In this case, Mr. Busby was interrogated twice: first on April 22, 2010, by UCPD  
6 detectives; next, on April 30, 2010, by DOE OIG agents. Exhs. J, K to Smock Decl. He was not  
7 advised of his *Miranda* rights on either occasion. *See id.* The interrogations thus were  
8 presumptively unconstitutional, and all statements made by Mr. Busby during the interrogations  
9 must be suppressed.

### 10 CONCLUSION

11 On April 22, 2010, government agents seized Mr. Busby’s work laptop and other  
12 electronic equipment without a warrant. Still without a warrant, agents searched his laptop and,  
13 after materially misrepresenting its contents to the magistrate, were able to obtain a search  
14 warrant. State and federal gents also twice interrogated him without first advising him of his  
15 *Miranda* rights.

16 The Fourth and Fifth amendments prohibit this type of unrestrained government conduct.  
17 The Fourth Amendment generally requires seizures and searches to be conducted pursuant to a  
18 warrant, and it requires these warrants to be supported by probable cause – not conclusory  
19 allegations and material misstatements. The Fifth Amendment requires that subjects of  
20 interrogations be advised of their constitutional right to remain silent. If these tenets are violated,  
21 the seizures and searches and interrogations are unlawful, and all their fruits must be suppressed.  
22

23 Both the warrantless seizure and searches of Mr. Busby’s work electronic equipment and  
24 the warrant search of his home violated these fundamental constitutional principles. Because the  
25 Statement supporting the warrant contained material misrepresentations, Mr. Busby is entitled to  
26 a *Franks* hearing if the Court does not suppress all fruits of the warrant search based on the

1 insufficiency of the Statement on its face. Because government agents twice interrogated him  
2 without first advising him of his rights, Mr. Busby's statements also much be suppressed.

3 Dated: July 5, 2011

4  
5 Respectfully submitted,

6 BARRY J. PORTMAN  
7 Federal Public Defender

8 /S/

9 NED SMOCK  
10 Assistant Federal Public Defender  
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